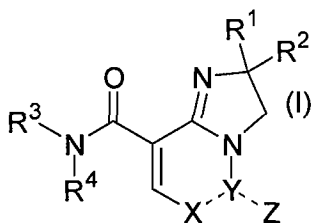
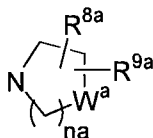


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Claim 1 (Original):** A compound represented by formula (I):


$$\begin{array}{c} \text{R}^8 \\ | \\ \text{N} \text{---} \text{C} \text{---} \text{C} \text{---} \text{R}^9 \\ | \\ \text{W} \\ | \\ \text{R}^7 \end{array}$$
[illegible]

group, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, substituted or unsubstituted aroyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaroyl, a halogen atom, amino, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, oxo, carboxy, carbamoyl, mono or di(substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl)amino, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoylamino, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, substituted or unsubstituted aralkyloxy, or substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyloxy)], or  $C=C-NR^{6a}R^{7a}$  (wherein  $R^{6a}$  and  $R^{7a}$  have the same meanings as  $R^6$  and  $R^7$  defined above, respectively);  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  may be the same or different and each represents a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkynyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, a halogen atom, carboxy, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, or  $C(=O)-NR^{6b}R^{7b}$  (wherein  $R^{6b}$  and  $R^{7b}$  have the same meanings as  $R^6$  and  $R^7$  defined above, respectively); and  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  may be the same or different and each represents a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group; or  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are combined together with the adjacent nitrogen atom thereto to form:



(wherein  $na$ ,  $W^a$ ,  $R^{8a}$  and  $R^{9a}$  have the same meanings as  $n$ ,  $W$ ,  $R^8$  and  $R^9$  defined above, respectively)), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein X--Y--Z is  $R^5N-C=O$  (~~wherein  $R^5$  has the same meaning as defined above~~).

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein X--Y--Z is  $N=C-NR^6R^7$  (~~wherein  $R^6$  and  $R^7$  have the same meanings as defined above, respectively~~).

Claim 4 (Original): The compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 3, wherein  $R^6$  and  $R^7$  are not hydrogen atoms simultaneously.

Claim 5 (Original): The compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 3, wherein  $R^6$  is a hydrogen atom and  $R^7$  is substituted or unsubstituted pyrrolidinyl.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein X--Y--Z is  $C=C-NR^{6a}R^{7a}$  (~~wherein  $R^{6a}$  and  $R^{7a}$  have the same meanings as defined above, respectively~~).

Claim 7 (Original): The compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 6, wherein  $R^{6a}$  and  $R^{7a}$  are not hydrogen atoms simultaneously.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein either  $R^1$  or  $R^2$  is a hydrogen atom and the other is substituted

or unsubstituted lower alkyl, or substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl; or R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> may be the same or different and each is substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is a hydrogen atom and R<sup>2</sup> is aralkyl.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is a hydrogen atom and R<sup>4</sup> is lower alkyl.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is a hydrogen atom and R<sup>4</sup> is substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): A pharmaceutical composition which comprises the compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1.

Claims 13-16 (Cancelled)

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A method for ~~preventing and/or~~ treating diabetes, which comprises administering an effective amount of the compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1.

Claims 18-19 (Cancelled)

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): A method for decreasing blood glucose level, which comprises administering an effective amount of the compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 1.

Claims 21-24 (Cancelled)